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## Worker Protection Standard Focus on...Revised Labels<sup>1</sup>

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United States Environmental Protection Agency<sup>2</sup>

The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) for Agricultural Pesticides requires pesticide registrants to revise the labels of agricultural use products to include WPS statements.

### CHANGES TO LABELS

There are a number of required label changes and additions. They include the restricted entry interval (REI) for the product -- the time after application when entry to the treated area is strictly limited. The WPS labels also will specify the required personal protective equipment for pesticide handlers and for early entry workers. And the labels will have an Agricultural Use Requirements box in the Directions for Use section. This box includes a statement requiring use of the product in accordance with the label and the WPS.

### NUMBERS

Over 2000 products require label modifications. Most of these labels have already been changed and many are in the marketplace.

### LABELING COMPLIANCE DATES

After April 21, 1994, registrants may not sell or distribute agricultural products without the WPS label. After October 23, 1995, products without the WPS label may not be sold or distributed by anyone.

### LABEL APPEARANCE

Eventually, all agricultural products will bear a final printed WPS label. During the transition, pesticide users will find product labels available in a number of formats. Some products with unchanged labels will still be available for sale at dealerships if sold or distributed by the registrant before April 21, 1994. Other products will bear a sticker referring users to a supplemental label that includes the

WPS requirements for that product. Many others will have final printed WPS labels.

### GENERIC WPS LABELS

Some products with unchanged labels will be sold with a generic WPS label requiring a base level of WPS protections. These labels will accompany products that were produced and released for shipment by the registrant before January 1, 1994. In allowing for a smooth implementation of label changes, the EPA allowed registrants to sell or distribute these products after April 21, 1994, if the registrant arranged to have generic labels available at sale.

### MORE INFORMATION

For information on the employer WPS requirements, see the July 1993 EPA manual *The Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides: How To Comply -- What Employers Need to Know*.

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1. This document is part of the Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances series of the Environmental Protection Agency. Publication date: February 1994.

2. The United States Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20460.